

CONGRATULATING DEPUTY SECRETARY DOUG HOUSE ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Doug House, who is retiring as Deputy Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation after two and a half years of service.

Throughout his life, in every action he has undertaken, Mr. House has selflessly served the public in pursuit of delivering a better Illinois. He has always been a fighter for meaningful change and produced real results for Illinoisans. His journey began in the Quad Cities region, when he graduated from Rockridge High School in Taylor Ridge, Illinois. Mr. House became a Staff Sergeant in the 182nd Airlift Wing of the Illinois Air National Guard in Peoria in 1980. He joined the 682nd Engineer Battalion of the U.S. Army Reserve in 1983, where he helped train heavy construction equipment operators to build roads until his honorable discharge in 1986. Mr. House's commitment to revitalize our state's infrastructure was only beginning and would stay with him over the next four decades. He oversaw the progress of many public works projects while presiding over the Illinois Chapter of the American Public Works Association. Mr. House, an advocate for workers' rights, was named to The Indiana, Illinois, Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting as a construction analyst in 2016. In April 2019, he was hired as Deputy Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation. One of his proudest moments was being in Moline, Illinois on December 1, 2021 for the opening of the I-74 Bridge, which will symbolize the hard-working spirit of our region for generations to come.

It is because of diligent and noble leaders such as Doug House that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Doug House on his two and a half years of service as Deputy Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF JOHN AND PHYLLIS HILL

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of John Leroy Hill and Phyllis Lynn Stringfield Hill.

John Leroy Hill was born on December 7, 1953 in Cowpens, South Carolina. A true American hero, John joined the U.S. Army in 1970 and bravely served our country for two decades. During this time, John served two tours in Korea, two tours in Germany, and

tours in Fort Bragg, Fort Hood, and Fort Ord. He retired as a First Sergeant on January 1, 1991.

John met his wife Phyllis while he was on recruiting duty in Warsaw, Indiana. The two were married on January 23, 1991. Known as hometown heroes, both John and Phyllis are deeply involved and engaged members in their community. John has been the Commander of the Clover Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6732 since 2008. He was also the Commander of the Clover American Legion Post 38 until he was relieved by John Mattingly earlier this year. Phyllis worked with Crystalen Mattingly to form a Ladies Auxiliary for the American Legion Post 38.

In February of 2019, Phyllis retired and wanted to spend time traveling. While on an Alaskan cruise, Phyllis learned that she had a malignant mass. After further testing at the Levine Cancer Institute in Charlotte, North Carolina, the mass was shown to be cancerous. After being diagnosed with an aggressive Stage 4 cancer, Phyllis was informed in June of 2020 that she had only three to nine months to live. She courageously underwent radiation and chemotherapy treatments every day for six weeks. Throughout this entire ordeal, Phyllis has remained a positive and faithful believer of God's healing powers.

Despite her devastating prognosis, Phyllis recently received remarkable news. On December 2nd, while at a monthly follow-up appointment, her doctor informed her that he could no longer see any cancer in her CT scans. Her team of doctors were baffled as to how the cancer had disappeared. Phyllis told them it was her deep and honest belief in God that led her through this.

On behalf of the 5th District of South Carolina, I thank John and Phyllis for their incredible service, and I commend them for their unwavering faith in the Lord. These two are an inspiration to us all. May God continue to bless them and their family.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF WESTFIELD FIRE CHIEF MARCUS REED

HON. VICTORIA SPARTZ

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Mrs. SPARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fire Chief Marcus Reed of Westfield, Indiana, on the occasion of his retirement after a long tenure of public service.

Chief Reed has spent the last five years as the Chief of the Westfield Fire Department following over two decades of fire department leadership around the country before that. His retirement will be a big loss for the community of Westfield and Hamilton County but a well-deserved reward for his tireless service to keep his neighbors safe through emergency response, training, and prevention.

I thank Chief Marcus Reed for his dedicated public service. Our community is grateful for his leadership and his long career in public safety.

RECOGNIZING THE SCOTT CENTRAL REBELS AS MHSAA 2A STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I'd like to congratulate the Scott Central Rebels and Coach Eric House on their MHSAA 2A State Championship victory. Coach House led the Rebels to an almost unchallenged 15-0 season with huge margins of victory over their opponents, ending the season with a MHSAA record-breaking 72 points in the championship game. I commend Coach House for his success at the helm of the Rebels football team and wish him and his team continued success in the future.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to the young men who worked tirelessly for the championship trophy. Every early morning, every extra rep, and every sacrifice they made to better themselves and their team has resulted in the top prize.

In the coming days, as the thrill of victory begins to fade, I would encourage those young men to reflect deeply on the investment they made to realize this championship. They will never forget the feeling of their great accomplishment; but in the future, as they reminisce on this victory, I would challenge them to remember the qualities that made them champions.

Those qualities of hard-work, commitment, and determination will continue to serve them well in the future as they transition from leaders on the field to leaders in their families, communities, state, and Nation.

Congratulations to the Scott Central Rebels. They earned this victory.

CONGRATULATIONS COACH LOU HOLTZ

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, congratulations Coach Lou Holtz for being awarded the Contributions to College Football Award from the National College Football Awards Association (NCFAA).

The purpose of the NCFAA is to enhance the integrity, influence, and prestige of college football's various awards.

Coach Holtz is the only college football coach to lead six different football programs to bowl games and the only one to lead four programs to the final top 20 rankings. The University of South Carolina cherish his dedicated service and success in Columbia. He defined college football and will forever be invoked in this era. Coach Holtz was elected to the College Football Hall of Fame on May 1, 2008.